



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 28

Drought Continues To Expand

Data tables reflect the week ending: **October 10, 2010**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Harvested	98	94	57	87
Cotton Bolls Opening	93	88	68	88
Cotton Harvested	45	32	4	24
Peanuts Dug	46	36	17	39
Peanuts Harvested	33	23	9	26
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	86	75	66	82
Soybeans Harvested	41	22	16	33
Winter Wheat Planted	17	9	N/A	N/A

N/A =Not Available

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	5	12	33	44	6
Cotton	9	29	37	24	1
Peanuts	12	30	42	15	1
Soybeans	8	26	46	20	0
Winter Wheat	3	9	61	27	0
Livestock	3	15	50	31	1
Pasture & Range	21	47	29	3	0

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	7.0	46	45	9	0
District 20	7.0	86	13	1	0
District 30	7.0	27	47	26	0
District 40	7.0	72	28	0	0
District 50	6.7	40	52	8	0
District 60	7.0	34	48	18	0
State: Current Week	7.0	53	38	9	0
State: Previous Week	6.5	43	42	15	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Precipitation deficits and wild land fire risk contributed to the expansion of severe drought in areas of the state. Areas of abnormal and moderate dry conditions were expanded to reflect long-term deficits in precipitation. Additionally, agricultural impacts were being noted in the region due to the extended dry period this growing season, according to the US Drought Monitor released October 7.

Jeffrey Smith, Executive Director for Elmore County stated that the county did not receive any rain at the service center last week, and only received .02 inches the previous week. The drought monitor portrayed the state to be 96.3 abnormally dry, 66.3 percent moderately dry, 25.7 percent severely dry, and 4.4 percent extremely dry compared to 53.3 percent free from drought 3 months ago, and 100 percent free from drought a year ago. Daytime highs ranged from 85 degrees in Bridgeport and Opelika to 93 degrees in Brewton. Overnight lows ranged from 32 degrees in Hamilton to 46 degrees in Headland. No precipitation was received at the weather stations last week.

Small Grains: Tim Malone, Executive Director for Lauderdale County stated winter wheat planting slowed because of the lack of moisture to germinate the seed.

Cotton/Corn/Peanuts/Soybeans: Karen McDonald, Executive Director for Monroe County reported the county was still extremely dry. It was very difficult to dig peanuts. Some of the farmers had to change blades every 8 to 10 acres compared to every 50 to 60 acres because of the hard ground. Even when they are able to dig, some of the peanuts were producing low grades. Cotton harvest was hastened due to the dry weather. Bobby Beasley, Executive Director for Henry County noted some of areas of his county received 2-3 inches of rain last week while others still remained dry. The rain helped with digging peanuts and supplied needed moisture to graze land. However, crops were too mature to benefit from moisture. Charles Burmester, Regional Extension Agent with the Tennessee Valley Research and Extension Center commented that soybean harvest has begun with haste although farmers were seeing smaller beans because of extreme dry conditions. Corn harvest was winding down with good to excellent yields.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Mr. Malone added that the dry weather was taking its toll on pastures. Cattle farmers were supplemental feeding because of the lack of grazing. Brenda Glover, Regional Extension Agent in Hale County stated the county still has not seen any rain, and no rain seems to be in sight. Jimmy Smitherman, Regional Extension Agent in Montgomery County mentioned the dry weather has ruined several pastures and hayfields as well as delaying planting of cool season grazing.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday October 4, 2010 To Sunday October 10, 2010

Weather Station	Air Temperatures				Precipitation			Precipitation since Jan 1			Avg. 4"	GDD Base 50		GDD Base 60	
	High	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	% Normal	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 46% of Corn Ac., 45% of Soybean Ac.															
Muscle Shoals	88	37	61	-4	0.00	-0.73	0	32.45	-8.99	78		78	-23	23	-18
Russellville	88	38	59	-4	0.00	-0.77	0	29.77	-13.90	68		67	-17	20	-9
Belle Mina	90	33	58	-6	0.00	-0.70	0	33.02	-9.27	78	65	60	-34	19	-17
Huntsville Ag	89	38	61	-4	0.00	-0.72	0	31.63	-12.63	71		79	-22	27	-14
Hamilton	93	32	58	-5	0.00	-0.76	0	44.53	-1.93	96		64	-25	21	-12
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 21% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	89	37	61	-6	0.00	-0.63	0	32.80	-9.74	77		78	-31	26	-18
Cullman Ag	87	36	59	-5	0.00	-0.84	0	45.16	-1.42	97	68	73	-20	24	-12
Sand Mountain	86	36	58	-5	0.00	-0.74	0	30.98	-12.87	71		61	-25	19	-12
Gadsden AP	88	36	59	-6	0.00	-0.64	0	28.40	-15.39	65		64	-35	18	-21
Bridgeport	85	35	58	-5	0.00	-0.82	0	38.32	-7.99	83		69	-15	20	-10
Guntersville	87	41	61	-5	0.00	-0.71	0	39.37	-2.82	93		89	-19	29	-17
District 30 North Central Alabama - 7% of Corn Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac.															
Thorsby	91	41	63	-3	0.00	-0.66	0	33.88	-11.05	75	71	117	6	49	2
Talladega	88	35	59	-7	0.00	-0.70	0	37.15	-7.86	83		68	-33	21	-19
Birmingham AP	90	39	63	-3	0.00	-0.65	0	37.88	-5.40	88		95	-16	38	-9
Alabaster	89	42	63	-4	0.00	-0.63	0	40.14	-5.72	88		94	-18	31	-16
Pinson	89	36	60	-5	0.00	-0.66	0	42.60	-2.25	95		70	-24	22	-14
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	85	37	60	-6	0.00	-0.71	0	38.09	-7.86	83		93	-18	24	-23
Alexander_City	89	41	63	-3	0.00	-0.75	0	32.91	-12.96	72		93	-15	31	-14
Tuscaloosa AP	91	39	63	-5	0.00	-0.65	0	33.68	-9.89	77		92	-29	29	-26
Jasper	89	37	60	-4	0.00	-0.78	0	48.87	3.61	108		76	-15	24	-10
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 7% of Corn Ac., 9% of Soybean Ac.															
Union Springs	89	40	63	-6	0.00	-0.62	0	27.97	-16.34	63		99	-23	33	-21
Marion Junction	89	43	63	-4	0.00	-0.63	0	31.66	-11.21	74	77	99	-16	35	-14
Montgomery AP	90	41	65	-5	0.00	-0.59	0	31.35	-11.24	74		103	-30	37	-26
Livingston	91	39	62	-5	0.00	-0.77	0	44.76	0.21	100		92	-21	30	-19
District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 7% of Corn Ac., 10% of Soybean Ac.															
Bay Minette	90	45	66	-6	0.00	-0.75	0	51.15	-3.15	94		117	-31	47	-30
Brewton AG	93	41	64	-4	0.00	-0.71	0	46.34	-6.16	88	81	106	-16	36	-19
Thomasville	91	43	66	-3	0.00	-0.63	0	33.74	-12.47	73		116	-10	48	-9
Mobile_Bates	91	44	65	-7	0.00	-0.76	0	48.67	-4.10	92		108	-41	39	-40
District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 15% of Corn Ac., 8% of Soybean Ac.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	88	44	64	-4	0.00	-0.53	0	51.51	10.06	124		109	-13	39	-15
Troy_Municipal	88	38	62	-7	0.00	-0.57	0	39.34	-2.93	93		88	-41	26	-33
Highland Home	89	42	63	-6	0.00	-0.58	0	39.34	-5.83	87		105	-21	39	-18
Geneva_Ag	89	40	61	-9	0.00	-0.70	0	39.28	-7.54	84	76	85	-53	23	-45
Headland	89	46	67	-3	0.00	-0.63	0	35.45	-10.23	78	79	122	-11	52	-11
Dothan	89	44	65	-5	0.00	-0.61	0	37.40	-7.20	84		104	-32	36	-30

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Air and Soil Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. PCT of Norm: Cumulative Rainfall since January 1 as a percent of normal (using 1961-90 normals period), 2008. Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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